SAARC Nations put on forbidden list

1124. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some SAARC nations have recently been put on forbidden list;

(b) if so, the names thereof; and

(c) what are the compulsions for doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, if persons from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka intend to participate in any international conference, seminar, workshop etc. in India, prior clearance of Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs would be required. This is on security considerations.

Unilateral Ceasefire in J and K

1125. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the unilateral ceasefire announced by the Centre in Jammu and Kashmir was a failure in its objective; and

(b) if so, the details and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Ramzan Peace Initiative, commonly known as cease-fire, was essentially addressed to three sections. Firstly & principally the people of J&K, who have demonstrated on overwhelming desire for peace and whose response was very positive. Secondly the international community, whose response was equally good. But the response of the third section, i.e. terrorist groups, was not positive. The cease-fire has generated a great sense of hope and goodwill among the people and had resulted in

significant lowering of cross border firing/shelling along the Line of Control. As such the cease-fire connot be seen as a failure.

However, keeping in mind that the various terrorist groups and organisations, mostly foreign, have not seen reason, have not recognized the imperatives of peace, dialouge and cooperation and have refused to shun violence, the restrictions on the Security Forces regarding not initiating combat operations against terrorists in J&K have since been withdrawn.

Bangladeshis residing in Sanjay Amar Colony in Delhi

1126. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Pioneer dated 27th April, 2001, under the heading "A ready reserve army for the ISI" and if so, the details thereof including the number of persons belonging to Bangladesh who are now residing in Sanjay Amar Colony in Delhi;

(b) the number of persons, from this colony who are now under detention; and

(c) what steps have been taken to deport them to Bangladesh during the last two years and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The report that twenty Bangladeshis from this colony are lodged in Tihar Jail in connection with carrying and planting explosive devices or that there is a rempant criminal activity in the colony has been found to be misleading.

(b) Seven persons of this colony are under detention, awaiting to be sent back to Bangladesh.

(c) After verification by the local police, if a person is identified to be an illegal immigrant from Bangladesh, he is handed over to FRRO for detention till he is sent back to Bangladesh. During the last two years and upto 15th July, 2001, 716 illegal Bangladeshi immigrants residing in Delhi were sent back to Bangladesh.